Washington, DC – Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), today sent a letter to Lisa Jackson, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), demanding information regarding the potential use of drone aircraft to inspect Missouri farmland. Recent reports have indicated that EPA's Region 7 Office of Enforcement, which covers Missouri, has been using drone aircraft to inspect regulated agricultural operations. Congressman Akin released the following statement after sending the letter:

"The idea of the EPA flying drones over Missouri farmland is deeply disturbing. The EPA assumes that Missouri farmers are the bad guys and are overreaching yet again. The Obama Administration has hit farmers over dust and taken the family out of the farm by prohibiting kids from working on family farms. Now they are flying drones over farms trying to find any possible reason to harass farmers. This is not only a regulatory overreach, but it also violates the privacy of these farmers. The EPA needs to immediately suspend any use of drones to monitor American citizens."

Letter: Akin to EPA re drones 06-07-2012.pdf

###